**Empowerment of NCM**

2714. SHKI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to give more powers to the National Commission for Minorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) The Government had approved the proposal relating to official amendments to the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004 and the National Commission for Minorities (Repeal) Bill, 2004 in December, 2008. Accordingly, notices were sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat for introduction of official amendments to these bills. However, the House was adjourned sine die on 26.02.2009.

**Feedback on schemes for minority communities**

2715. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the various socio-economic schemes floated by Government for the minority communities; and

(b) whether Government has set up any mechanism to receive the progress report/feedback from the State Governments through his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The following affirmative schemes are implemented by the Ministry for the socio-economic development of the minorities:-

(1) Pre-matric scholarship scheme

(2) Post-matric scholarship scheme

(3) Metri-cum-means based scholarship scheme

(4) Free coaching & Allied scheme

(5) Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for minority concentration districts and 15 points programme. Details are available at www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.

(b) Yes, Sir. The feedback reports are received through periodic review meetings with the State Governments and through progress reports received from them at regular intervals.

**Pre matric scholarship for minorities**

2716. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: